

# HUNDREDS OFF THE FEDERAL PAYROLL

## ONLY EMPLOYEES HOLDING PLACES AFTER TESTS MAY GET RETIREMENT CHECKS

Washington, March 8.—Approximately eighty thousand government employees, holding their positions by presidential order, are held to be not entitled to the benefits of the retirement act in an opinion rendered by Attorney General Daugherty and transmitted to the interior department, which administers the act.

Secretary Fall, in announcing the opinion today, said that out of 8,000 employees who have been retired under the act, 3,400 had been receiving compensation illegally and that upon receipt of the attorney general's ruling an order was issued that no more certificates for payment be issued.

The attorney general's opinion held that only those in the government service holding their positions as the result of competitive examinations were entitled to the benefits of the retirement act.

As a consequence of the ruling Secretary Fall said he had prepared a bill which was being presented to the proper committees of congress for consideration in case congress desires to incorporate within the benefits of the act the 8,000 employees and to protect in the future those who have already been retired.

## The Argus' Business Review

(By Consolidated Press.)  
Telegraphic dispatches from nation's important centers giving Business News and Reviews of Interest and Importance to Producer and Consumer.

BY C. G. MARSHALL.

Chicago, March 8.—Business is so distinctly better in nearly every line in the middle west that it is difficult to explain the sudden falling off in the coal trade. Industries have ceased stocking up in preparation for a possible strike, manufacturers being apparently confident that if a strike comes it will be of short duration. Few plants have more than sixty to ninety days' supply on hand and the consumers believe the price will be lower.

This is merchants' buying week here and retailers from many states are in the market for dry goods and accessories. The majority are buying for immediate delivery. Dry goods jobbers are receiving encouraging reports from their men on the road. They attribute better demand to the improvement in the price of grain and hogs.

The still industry in this section is increasing its output and demand for steel products continue heavy. The United States Steel corporation has blown in two more blast furnaces at Gary and South Chicago and that company and the leading independents now are operating at 60 per cent of capacity. Railroads are buying track material and car orders are numerous.

BY L. V. SHANNON.

New Orleans, March 8.—Jobs in every line are feeling the stimulus of spring business in this section. For the first time in over a year they are reporting a profit on sales for the month. Business in the last 30 days increased from 5 to 25 per cent over the previous month, the greatest gains being in dry goods and notions and in small retail stores. Demand for dry goods and notions in the country districts are claiming gains in business of from 10 to 20 per cent. Retailers continue to buy conservatively, but their stocks are low, and distributors anticipate a steady, continuous demand from them. Wholesale stocks are also low and in need of constant replenishment.

Real estate is more active and sales are growing from week to week. Building permits issued for small residential structures to show the smallest in the country. Demand for oil and erection of additional refineries which have been planned will add to the importance of this port as a factor in export trade, making it one of the most important in this country.

BY FRANK D. MCCLAIN.

Philadelphia, March 8.—Business is showing a gradual improvement in this section, but this slow growth is regarded as a more encouraging sign than any temporary boom. Bank clearings are increasing and these are a fairly sure barometer of trade and industry, as this is not a speculative center. Demand for certain lines. Many large industries here have been stocking up with bituminous coal, but none has sufficient reserve supply to carry through a protracted coal strike. However, by April 1 domestic production will be sufficient to meet the demand.

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## CUPID IGNORES FLU DANGER IN CAMPUS AFFAIR

Champaign, Ill., March 8.—Armed with a quiver of influenza germs Cupid invaded the University of Illinois campus and last night Miss Catherine Barnett of Bethel, Conn., a graduate of Wellesley college, and Cornelius F. Kruse of Urbana, a student, were married.

When Mr. Kruse became very ill, suffering a relapse from influenza, his fiancée became alarmed and hastened to the university here from her home in Connecticut. Miss Barnett, finding Kruse in a serious condition and without a nurse, consented that the marriage date set for next June be changed to that of yesterday. The next question was where was the marriage to take place, and how was it to be celebrated, since this is the Lenten season and the parties in question were Episcopalians.

Then H. H. Braucher of the department of industrial education offered to open his home for the wedding at 715 Washington boulevard, Urbana, where Kruse was moved from the University club. Under the circumstances, Rev. J. M. P. of the Episcopal church, making a special dispensation, performed the ceremony at 5:30 o'clock last night.

F. D. McClusky of the department of education acted as best man. Kruse is a graduate of Yale and a member of Alpha Sigma Phi fraternity. He expects to resume his classes at the university here as soon as his honeymoon with the "du" germs is over.

## GRADUATED SCALE OF SHOP WAGES IS SOUGHT BY ROADS

Chicago, March 8.—Western railroads broke away from the stereotyped request for a blanket percentage reduction for shop workers today when they asked the railroad labor board, which is holding a nationwide hearing, to permit a graduated scale of shop wages, based on wages paid for similar work in other industries in various railway centers.

J. W. Higgins, speaking for 101 western railroads, presented a request for a reduction of the present 37 cent an hour rate for skilled mechanics to 67½ cents as a minimum. He asked that a maximum rate of 64 cents for helpers' apprentices also be fixed.

## BED SPRINGS AS RADIO CATCHER; SLEEP BROKEN?

Peoria, Ill., March 9.—Hallucinations were today blamed by a Peoria physician, a wireless authority and a physicist at Bradley institute, for the weird experiences of E. C. Beck of Chillicothe, who has come to this city to have "his wireless stuff stopped," so he won't hear voices and music in his room and get shocks when he goes to bed at night.

Prof. B. G. Shalkhauser, wireless authority of Bradley institute believes the man has read so much about radio that he is suffering from hallucinations. Prof. Verne Swain, head of the physicist department at Bradley, admits that the power of transmission is sufficiently strong the bed springs could attract the wave and cause sparks.

Beck hasn't a receiving set, but says he has heard strange chuckling noises in his room and hasn't had a wink of sleep for two weeks because of voices he hears around him.

Further investigations will be made as the man wants the radio sending stations closed.

## OLD FASHIONED SONGS TO REVIVE GLEE CLUB VOGUE

Chicago, March 8.—Neither "high brow music or jazz," but "old fashioned songs and typical college songs" were suggested by members of the Federation of University Women at a meeting here yesterday to revive interest in glee clubs at the University of Chicago and to exterminate jazz melodies.

Two plans were approved, one to support men's and women's glee clubs, mandolin clubs, the orchestra and the band, and the other to inaugurate community singing.

Charlotte Armstrong, president of the federation, pointed out that it is necessary to take the musical organization out of town to give concerts, as "nobody on our campus seems interested."

## WHISKY STOLEN

Frederick, Md., March 8.—Overpowering three guards and smashing down the doors, a gang of liquor robbers, believed to have numbered 30, early today escaped with 2,100 gallons of whisky from the warehouse at Burkittsville, near here, of the Outbridge Horseley distillery company, Inc.

## ARMSTRONG THEATRE MANAGEMENT

Rock Island merchants' spring opening occurs tomorrow night. 400 tickets will be distributed from stores participating in the spring opening. These coupons will be placed at various points in the stores—not hidden—and finders will be guests of the Fort Armstrong management at the showing of "Traveling On." Children under 16 using the tickets must be accompanied by their parents.

The Spencer Square theatre, where a Thomas Meighan film, "The Conquest of Canaan," is being shown, will be host to the first 300 who apply at 9 o'clock to the box office for admission. Admission will be to the 9 o'clock show only and tickets will be presented to the 300 people who first apply at the box office.

## David Lawrence Says:

President Harding Favors Either a Sales Tax or Postponement of Cash Payments On the Soldier Bonus. Look for a Deadlock in the Senate On the Bill.

BY DAVID LAWRENCE.

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Washington, March 8.—The White house officially announces that President Harding still favors either a sales tax or a postponement of the cash payments on the soldier bonus. The president himself let it be known that while he disliked to disapprove those who said the administration was changing with the weather, the fact was the executive had not altered his position on the bonus issue. This information was imparted when it was suggested that Chairman Fordney had brought to the White house details of the modified plan of the house ways and means committee whereby \$50 was to be the maximum cash given service men who served on this side and \$62.50 to those who went overseas. Although Chairman Fordney discussed the bonus question with the president, the latter is represented at the White house as having failed to approve or disapprove the Fordney plan.

The news of President Harding's insistence on his original position of postponement or the enactment of a sales tax to raise the needed revenue has started all sorts of speculation as to what's behind Mr. Harding's move. He knows, of course, that a sales tax is impossible because there are not enough votes to get it through. The house on the other hand, faces an election this autumn and is more or less pledged by its leaders to take some sort of action.

The upshot of the whole situation is unquestionably a deadlock in the senate. When 435 members of congress are divided as to the bonus bill, (Continued on Page Twelve.)

## ILLINOIS MINE WORKERS SEEK SEPARATE PACT

St. Louis, Mo., March 8.—Frank Farrington, president of the Illinois district, United Mine Workers of America, telegraphed William Green, international secretary-treasurer at Indianapolis this afternoon, that the Illinois mine workers would attempt to negotiate a separate wage agreement with the Illinois operators unless the international union arranges an interstate conference with the operators in the four states comprising the central competitive field of coal or better March 8.

## SHEBOYGAN HIT BY \$500,000 FIRE; ONE LIFE IS LOST

Sheboygan, Mich., March 8.—The downtown section of Sheboygan was threatened with destruction by fire of undetermined origin this morning. The fire broke out early and at 9 o'clock was still beyond control. Two city blocks already have been swept by the flames.

Frank J. Hover, a baker, was burned to death when he entered his shop in an attempt to save valuables, and two boys are reported missing. The buildings already destroyed include the Frost-Kesseler block, largest in the city, and the First National bank. At 9 o'clock the flames were sweeping northward and threatening the Thompson department store.

The loss at that hour was estimated at \$500,000.

## JOHN LAMBERT TO BE BURIED IN HIS JOLIET, ILL., HOME

Pasadena, Cal., March 8.—Details for the funeral service for the late Colonel John Lambert, one of the pioneer organizers of the steel industry in this country, were being arranged today and Saturday morning has been fixed as the time. The body will be shipped to Joliet, Ill., for interment, it was announced by the family.

## CLERKS ACCEPT CUT

Chicago, March 8.—Five thousand clerks of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy railroad have agreed to accept pay cuts ranging from 3 to 6 per cent, it was announced today. This is the first large road in the country to enter into such an agreement with employees independent of the United States Railroad board.

## CONFERENCE IS A FAILURE IF FOUR-POWER TREATY IS DEFEATED, LODGE WARNS

## GIRL ASPIRANT FOR GOVERNOR BEER ADVOCATE

(By Consolidated Press.)

Kansas City, Kans., March 8.—In a campaign surprise here last night before the Young Men's Republican club, Miss Helen Pettigrew, 21, and pretty, formerly a department store clerk, but now Kansas' first woman aspirant for governor, announced further planks in the remarkable platform upon which she is seeking the Republican nomination.

Here in Kansas, one of the original dry states of the union, Miss Pettigrew declared for light wines and beer, and says she is opposed to "all sorts of blue laws." She favors short skirts for women, bobbed hair, cosmetics, and anything else that will make a woman more attractive, or make her think she is more attractive.

"We hear much of woman's rights," she declared. "Her first right is to look as pretty as she can."

"People of the United States will welcome the return of light wines and beer with all proper restrictions. I am opposed to the return of the old saloon system, but think we should be allowed our personal freedom."

"If I am nominated and elected governor of this state I will do all I can to obtain the repeal of the old Kansas 'bone dry' law."

"Short skirts are sanitary. Bobbed hair is convenient and easier to comb than long hair. A woman in business hasn't much time to waste mornings on combing hair."

"Cosmetics help some women wonderfully, and if the result justifies the act she should not be criticised."

"I have been asked about my stand on jazz music. I do not think it is harmful. I think some so-called jazz is very pretty."

Miss Pettigrew, scarcely five feet tall, and dressed in a plain blue frock, seriously expounded her beliefs and her platform. Her statements were not made in a spirit of jest, but with a spirit of conviction.

"If I am elected I intend to see that my sex has more recognition than men have ever dared to give it before."

Miss Pettigrew is the daughter of Sherman Pettigrew, a contractor of this city. She gave up her department store work to devote all her time to the primary fight now on.

She first announced her candidacy about a month ago. It was not thought at the time she would make a serious campaign, but with last night's opening gun she says she proposes to carry her standards into every county in the state.

## FROZEN ASSETS IS GIVEN AS CAUSE CHICAGO FAILURE

Chicago, March 8.—"Frozen assets" and a run caused by the failure of many eastern brokerage houses was blamed today for the failure yesterday of Kriebel & Co. with approximately \$5,000,000 in liabilities against about \$4,000,000 in assets.

Mr. Kirkland gave the known assets of the firm as \$4,371,000 and the known liabilities as \$4,102,000, but said this did not include many small accounts which would make the liabilities more than the assets.

## LANDMARK DESTROYED

Dixon, Ill., March 8.—A big brick house on the Warren Leake farm, seven miles southeast of Dixon, was totally destroyed by fire, which originated from the furnace, early today. The house was built in 1854 and was a familiar landmark on the old Chicago-Galena stage line trail, which runs past the farm.

## TO EXPLAIN ECONOMY

Washington, March 8.—The budget bureau was preparing an exposition of the economy achievements effected since inauguration of the budget system, for transmission to the house appropriations committee.

## MARINES SENTENCED

Managua, March 8.—Twenty American marines found guilty of engaging in a fight with city police, in which three policemen were killed, were sentenced to eight years at hard labor, three to ten years at hard labor and three to 12 years at hard labor.

## Reason for Termination of Anglo-Japanese Agreement Explained.

Washington, March 8.—Termination of the Anglo-Japanese alliance and substitution of a political system actuated by peace in the Pacific was described in the senate today by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, the Republican leader and a member of the American arms delegation to the "main purpose" of the four-power Pacific treaty.

The Anglo-Japanese arrangement, Senator Lodge declared, was regarded by the delegation as "the most dangerous element" in this government's relations with the far east. He asserted that if the four-power pact with its clause abrogating the alliance, failed, the naval limitation agreement also would be endangered, resulting in "failure of the conference."

No entangling commitments are contained in the treaty, he asserted, and no provisions contrary to American traditions. He characterized it as "only an experiment," but added that it was one that must succeed if the United States is to make good its professed desire to take the lead in guiding the world toward peace.

Declaring he desired to "tell the senate with entire frankness" the motives which actuated the American delegation, Mr. Lodge said: "We tried to determine and mark out the course which the American delegation, with whom rested the responsibility of initiating all the work of the conference, should follow. The delegation was in complete accord as to the policies to be pursued. We were of one mind in agreeing that if we were to have any measure of success we must think in terms of peace and not in terms of war. It was our earnest hope that in a portion of the earth's surface, at least, we could do something to substitute the assurance of peace for the arrangements and calculations of war."

"As a basis of beliefs, we were clearly of the opinion that there lay before us three great objectives, three dominant purposes to be attained. One was the termination of the Anglo-Japanese alliance. The next was an agreement between the five principal allied and associated powers seated at the table for a reduction of naval armaments."

"The third was to accomplish all that was possible to aid given in the establishment of a free government and to secure the restoration of the great province of Shantung to the Chinese empire."

"We succeeded before the close of the conference in attaining all of (Continued on Page Seventeen.)

## BOY MISTAKEN FOR A BURGLAR LOSES HIS LIFE

Granite City, Ill., March 8.—Frank Stark, 15-year-old school boy, was killed by detectives of the Chicago & Alton railroad here last night, who told the police they had mistaken the youth for a burglar. The two detectives, T. A. Howard, chief of the railroad's detectives of this district, and Special Officer King were under arrest by Coroner Merca.

## SHOTGUN SQUAD READY FOR KLAN IN FELLOWS, CAL.

Fresno, Calif., March 8.—Aroused by the reappearance of an armed body of men, dressed in the regalia of Ku Klux Klan, which last Sunday night visited the Baptist tabernacle in Fellows, Calif., residents of the city of Maricopa have organized a shotgun squad and are awaiting further developments, according to a story published by the Fresno Republican today. The paper stated that this "vigilance committee" is composed of a number of the leading citizens.

The paper said the shotgun squad members had announced they were ready to receive any night riders, whether white-hooded or black-hooded, with buckshot, and ask questions later."

When the armed men visited the Fellows tabernacle two of the church members are said to have taken to cover. One is reported to have spent the night under his automobile and another is said to have slept Sunday night in the crown of an oil derrick.

## Depending Nights Locked Up With Strange Men Causes Trouble.

(By Consolidated Press.)

St. Paul, March 8.—"Never would I allow Mrs. Preus to go through such an ordeal."

This frank statement by Governor A. O. Preus of Minnesota has given such added velocity to the storm which has arisen here over the confinement of seven women and five men for two days and two nights that it was freely predicted today there would be no more "mixed juries" in this county.

To this extent, therefore, the fight of women's organizations for an absolute equality of rights with men has received a decided setback. The privileges of citizenship represented by prolonged jury duty have damaged the feelings of seven St. Paul householders and sown the seeds of an organized movement against some of the outcroppings of universal suffrage.

The jury of seven women and five men, selected to sit in judgment in the case of the state against George Thoenke, charged with stealing an automobile, was "hung up" for two days and two nights before a verdict of guilty was returned. No sooner had the jury been discharged with the usual thanks by Judge F. M. Catlin than a great hue and cry went up.

Grasping hands of the women serving on the jury didn't mind doing the housework and caring for the children during the day, but when, at night, their wives were herded into jail, the men in the jail room, where there were no screens or curtains to shield the feminine section of the improvised dormitory, the end of duty as good citizens was reached.

In consequence a notice that is issued the support of most of the married male population and a few of the promised in marriage as well as been unofficially but none the less firmly served to the effect that there will be no more of that sort of thing in these parts.

One of the irate husbands so vehemently outlined to Judge Catlin his position as an American and a taxpayer that he narrowly escaped censure for contempt. Throwing aside the usual "the majesty of the law," the indignant housewife made full use of his unexpurgated vocabulary and declared that neither his wife nor himself would ever serve on a jury, let the penalty be what it would.

"Never have I been thus spoken to in my official capacity," said Judge Catlin today, "but I was convinced that under the circumstances the man was not responsible and I allowed him to 'get away with it.' I believe it did him good."

"Shocking" Details.  
Five of the husbands went after Sheriff John Wagner and informed him that hereafter he need waste (Continued on Page Nine.)

## DENIAL OF BAIL REMEDY SOUGHT AS A CRIME CURB

Springfield, Ill., March 8.—Declaration of war on Chicago gunmen by various law enforcement agencies were laid before the constitutional convention today for amplification.

Aid of the convention in the fight to break the bond system of notorious criminals and their professional bondsmen was asked of the convention. The method proposed was a constitutional provision lightening the bill of rights by giving courts power to deny bail to known criminals.

The petition was delivered to the convention by Judge John M. McConner of the First district appellate court, on behalf of criminal and circuit court judges of Chicago, Cook county and Illinois bar associations, and numerous other organizations of Cook county and the state.

Only through striking at the bond system, through which criminals gain their freedom to renew their activities, can the public obtain protection, the petitioners declared. The only effective means of combating the system, they asserted, is through a constitutional provision permitting courts to consider the records of known criminals in fixing bail.

The committee is the same which was constituted in an effort to suppress the manufacture and sale of pistols, revolvers and other concealable weapons "so far as individuals are concerned."

## FATE OF BONUS BILL IN SENATE CAUSING WORRY

Washington, March 8.—Republican leaders disclosed today that they were considering a plan to put the soldiers' bonus bill through the house under a suspension of the rules which would shut out amendment of any kind and limit debate to 40 minutes.

Under this plan, a two-thirds vote would be necessary to pass the measure, but leaders believed on the basis of present sentiment among members that this majority could be obtained with votes to spare.

Monday, March 20, will be the next rules suspension day.

Washington, March 8.—After weeks of work and worry, the house ways and means committee majority has evolved a soldiers' bonus bill on which it apparently intends to stand pat.

Chairman Fordney and his co-workers believe it will encounter only comparatively feeble opposition in the house.

What will happen to the bill in the senate appears at this time to be more or less problematical. There the measure will be open to amendment and also to unlimited debate, and it is regarded as more than probable that it will be subjected to change in some important particulars.

Among house members there was more discussion today as to how the president viewed the bill than there was about its probable fate after it left the house on its second start for the statute books. Framers appeared to be fairly confident that it would not meet with the executive's disapproval, because it removed what they said was the fundamental object to the cash bonus plan—an immediate drain on the federal treasury.

Some opponents of the measure in the house contended that it would not enable the men to get as much cash in three years as they would have received under the original cash plan and that the proposed advances by the banks, if made, would inflate credits to the extent of half a billion or more dollars over the period of the bank loans, thus increasing living costs.

Proponents of the bank loan plan argued that through this provision the men could obtain immediately a far greater sum than they would have received under the cash installment payment plan originally proposed, and this without the imposition of any additional taxes on the country. They contended also that when the treasury would have to begin paying out money it could reasonably be assumed that there would be funds to meet the payments through reduced government expenses and receipts from the refunded foreign loan.

## MRS. OBENCHAN TO TELL STORY BEFORE JURORS

Los Angeles, Calif., March 8.—Mrs. Madalynne Obenchan, on trial here for the murder of J. Beeton Kennedy, former sweetheart, probably will take the witness stand today or tomorrow and tell the jury her version of many incidents connected with the slaying.

This is in accordance with an announcement by her attorneys that they hoped to complete the defense by tomorrow at the latest, and that their client would take the stand.

The defense contends the principal issue in the trial is whether Mrs. Obenchan was scorned by Kennedy or whether she refused to marry him. It holds the latter is the case.

## THE WEATHER

Cloudy and unsettled weather with probably rain or snow tonight and Thursday. Slightly warmer tonight. Colder by Thursday night. Highest temperature yesterday, 34; lowest last night, 28.  
Wind velocity at 7 a. m. 4 miles per hour.  
12 m. 7 p. m. 7 a. m. yesterday, today, 26 32 26  
Dry bulb ..... 31 32 26  
Wet bulb ..... 28 29 25  
Rel. humidity ..... 67 70 59  
River stage at 7 a. m. 5.5, a rise of 3 in last 24 hours.  
Sunset today 6:01; sunrise tomorrow, 6:25.  
ANDREW HAMRICK, Meteorologist.

## INVADERS MAY QUIT LIMERICK WITHOUT CLASH

Limerick, March 8.—(By the Associated Press.)—Large forces of regular Irish republican army troops are now in Limerick occupying the Williams street barracks and five other barracks. They have also taken over the local jail. British troops are still occupying the new barracks and the ordnance building. The ordnance police duties are being performed by Irish republican army regulars, who commandeered the principal hotels and are still occupying them as billets.

Substantial reinforcements came in the Republican regulars came in last night, 500 men arriving from East Clare and East Limerick. They were accompanied by an armored car.

Nearly coincident with the coming of reinforcements was the arrival of Richard Mulcahy, the daily minister of defense, and other provisional government representatives, who began negotiations with the insurgent republican troops. Strong hopes were expected that an understanding would be reached, making it unnecessary to use force in bringing about the withdrawal of the invaders.

Pending the outcome of the negotiations, it was agreed that neither side should interfere with the other. Through cooperation of the Fort